

# THE U.F.A.

PUBLISHED BY  
THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

Vol. I.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, NOVEMBER 1, 1922

No. 17

## Pincher Creek Farmers Grasp Practical Plan of Co-operative Marketing

By D. A. Stringer

"I spend all my time, all of my energy, and every cent of my money (many dollars each day) in production, but the time, energy and money invested in selling or marketing my produce has been practically nil. I've left that for the other fellow to do, and paid dearly for it. Would it not be a sane policy to pay more attention to marketing—to follow the example of all producers of finished products who make a specialty of the study of marketing conditions, and of scientific marketing?"

### Building From the Ground Up

The question was raised by a Pincher Creek farmer, and seven Locals of the U.F.A. in the Pincher Creek district have answered it in the affirmative, and have organized and secured incorporation under the name of "The Pincher Creek Co-operative Association of the U.F.A., Limited." The Pincher Creek farmers, yes, the business men of the district too, have grasped a practical plan of co-operative marketing out of the ashes of past failures. They have organized to study the heart of their problems. They are building from the ground up, they can't leave it to George or someone else. The speculator, manufacturer, miller and broker are not interested in the industry; margins of profit are what they want. The farmers, the growers, know that they are the fellows whose every last cent is in the farm property and equipment. All their labor is in the production; every hope is in their farms—it is they who must think of agriculture as an industry. They realize this clearly.

This co-operative marketing association is of the farmers, by the farmers, and for the farmers, and if properly managed cannot fail to bring more money to the farmers; and, more than this, it will promote and bring to realization better homes and better lives for the men and women whose interests it serves.

### Two Forms of Co-operation

It may be of interest at this point to make the necessary distinction between two forms of co-operation—consumers' and producers'. The English and Scottish Wholesale Co-operative Societies, as well as the many retail co-operative stores, are consumers' organizations. They were originated for consumers' purposes, and have carried out consumers' ideas. They sell for local consumption. Great Britain, in the wholesale society, has the greatest consumer co-operative association in the world. It is under this form of co-operation that the fundamental principles of patronage dividends, the selection of stockholders and of one man one vote have been developed.

Although co-operative marketing is somewhat younger than consumer co-operation, particularly on this continent, it is of interest

The launching by the Pincher Creek farmers of a form of co-operative marketing based upon the successful experience of the farmers of California and other Pacific Coast States is a matter of more than usual significance. "The Pincher Creek Co-operative Association of the U.F.A., Ltd.," was recently established by seven U.F.A. Locals. The article published on this page may be helpful to Locals in other districts where the formation of co-operative marketing associations is contemplated. To take charge of this important undertaking the Pincher Creek association has obtained the services of D. A. Stringer, who has resigned from the position of Western superintendent of the farm machinery and supplies department of the United Grain Growers, Limited, in order to manage the association.

to note that nearly every civilized country in the world has had co-operative marketing by the farmer for more than two generations. The United States and Canada happen to be the two backward ones. In Denmark, co-operative marketing of farm products has been practised for more than fifty years, and from 85 per cent to 90 per cent. of the livestock, poultry and dairy products pass through the farmers' own organizations.

### Essentials for Success

Farmer co-operation in marketing has been carried on successfully in California and other Pacific coast states during the past fifteen years. It is this form of co-operation that the U.F.A. Locals of the Pincher Creek district are about to put into practice. They realize that successful marketing, in general terms, must take into account:

1. Supply—our own and others' production.
2. Demand—available markets for our produce in competition with others.
3. Credit conditions to govern terms of sale and shipment.
4. Distribution or delivery of crops upon these markets.
5. Transportation facilities.

No man or organization can market anything successfully without a practical knowledge and full consideration of the above essential matters. The farmer is alive to the fact that the marketing of products calls for the knowledge of the specialist, and is anxious to obtain the services of specialists to undertake this work. When he hires a specialist he does not feel that he has given up any personal liberty or self-reliance.

### Merits of Group Marketing

Group production and group marketing have proved their immense superiority over individual production and individual marketing. This has for many years been recognized in manufacturing, but for a long time the farmer believed that because his father and his father's father had always produced and marketed individually, he must himself be an individualist in distributing and marketing. But the time is now past when every farmer produced his own meat, butter and eggs, and exchanged or bartered them for other food or other necessities, without the intervention of the middleman. Today, well organized combines and mergers can take the farmer's products almost at their own prices. The price paid to the farmers usually has no relation to the farmer's cost of production.

On the other hand, the manufacturer ascertains his cost first, then names his selling price.

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D. A. STRINGER,  
Manager of "The Pincher Creek  
Co-operative Association of the  
U.F.A., Ltd."



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# THE U. F. A.

PUBLISHED ON THE 1ST AND 15TH OF EACH MONTH BY THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA,  
201-218 LOUGHEED BUILDING, CALGARY, ALTA.

W. NORMAN SMITH, Editor.

H. HIGGINBOTHAM, Manager.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscription fee, \$1.00 per annum. To all members of the United Farmers of Alberta, the United Farm Women of Alberta, the paper is included in the contribution of \$2.00 per annum, per member, remitted to Central Office, through the Secretary of the Local to which the member belongs. Price for single copies, 5 cents. Remittances must be made direct to the U.F.A., by postal note, post office, bank or express money order. Sending currency through the mail is always a matter of risk.

## RELIABILITY OF ADVERTISERS.

We will not knowingly accept any other than reliable advertisements, and no advertisements for liquor, tobacco or speculative investment schemes will be published. Our readers will oblige us greatly if they will advise us promptly should they have any reason to doubt the reliability of any advertiser making use of "The U.F.A."

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We allow no discount for time or space on display advertising. To ensure insertion, all changes of copy and new matter must be in our hands 8 days in advance of date of publication. Reading matter advertisements will be marked "Advertisement."

Vol. I.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, NOVEMBER 1st, 1922

No. 17

## EDITORIAL

Shortly after the Federal election of December last the farmers' elected representatives, in conference at Saskatoon, were invited to adopt a policy which sooner or later must have led to fusion with one of the old political parties.

The invitation was not accepted. At a later date the farmers' representatives were invited to start a movement of their own—a new political party, in structure identical with the old. This proposal has not materialized.

During the past few months, however, and particularly within the past few weeks, the talk of fusion has been revived. It has been reported that definite proposals of amalgamation, partial or complete, will shortly be laid before the farmers' representatives. And while the services of a portion of the party press have been enlisted in the furtherance of fusion propaganda, these reports have neither been confirmed nor denied by the reputed principals in the negotiations.

The time has manifestly come when these principals must declare themselves, publicly, plainly, without equivocation. If those among them who were elected as farmers' representatives should decide to sever their connection with the organizations which were instrumental in electing them, and immediately to seek re-election as candidates of the political party now in office, they will be within their rights in doing so. But the serious confusion and perplexity which has been occasioned among the farmers by past months of uncertainty cannot be allowed to continue. A conference of the elected representatives will be held in Winnipeg on November 10th. The members owe a duty to the people, in whom ultimate responsibility rests, to obtain at this conference a complete disclosure of what has taken place. Propaganda must give place to information.

Resolutions received by "The U.F.A." from conventions now being held throughout the Province indicate that Alberta farmers are determined to preserve the integrity of their organization as a group in active politics, and that they are uncompromisingly opposed to fusion with any political party, old or new. Press reports from Saskatchewan reveal strong opposition to fusion among the farmers of the neighboring Province. There has been no report to date, so far as can be gathered from newspapers to hand, of any constituency organization in Canada having endorsed them.

Neither fusion nor the creation of a new centralized party machine has been demanded by the people. No elected member, so long as he continues to be a representative of the organized farmers, is entitled to commit himself to so com-

plete a reversal of the plan of democratic action he was elected to maintain as the adoption of either one of these proposals would involve.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

Without undue disparagement of the anti-Wheat Board literature of various kinds with which Alberta is being flooded, it may be said that this literature would be more enlightening if it carried the name and address of the group of philanthropists who have generously provided the funds to ensure its publication and circulation. But possibly these gentlemen, who wish to save the farmers from the evils of a national wheat marketing system, are excessively modest and hypersensitive.

\* \* \*

The Calgary Albertan says: "There is no place in the Government, or in the administration, for any political party." The Albertan is right. The political party system is dead, and there is no place for a political party anywhere except in the grave of the past.

\* \* \*

The creation, by men who were elected through the instrumentality of democratic organizations, of a new party machine on the old plan, controlled from the top, will not be tolerated—at least not by the farmers.

\* \* \*

An Edmonton newspaper which for many years has been an unwavering opponent of the organized farmers has distributed approximately 100,000 copies of a four-page supplement attacking the Wheat Board plan. If anyone should ask "Who paid for them?" that would be a perfectly legitimate question. The public should know who its benefactors are.

\* \* \*

The Manitoba Free Press protests on principle against the guidance of an elected representative by the people who elected him and to whom he is responsible. The Free Press prefers the party system, under which the elected member is controlled from the top by the party machine, the party machine in turn being controlled by the financial-industrial interests which supply the party funds. In the U.F.A. the function of the elected member is advisory leadership. The people supply the funds and he is responsible to them.

\* \* \*

No small group of men, even though they be elected members, are entitled, as the sequel to negotiations to which no one but themselves have been parties, to reverse the plan of

(Continued on page 6)



# The Problem of Wheat Marketing

President Wood Answers 26 Questions Submitted by Bassano Local

In a recent letter to President Wood the Bassano Local submitted 26 questions in reference to the problem of wheat marketing. At the request of the Bassano Local the letter, together with Mr. Wood's answers to the various questions, is published below. These answers have been endorsed by the Executive Committee of the U.F.A.

Bassano, Alta., Sept. 4, 1922.

Mr. H. W. Wood,  
President of the U.F.A.,  
Calgary, Alberta.

Dear Mr. Wood:—

The Bassano Local of the U.F.A., in the interest of further discussion of the proposed Wheat Board plan endorsed by the last U.F.A. Convention and the substitute recently enacted, submits to you and your Executive Board the following questions which we would be pleased to have answered by you in our official organ, 'The U.F.A.' and in 'The Grain Growers' Guide':

Question 1.—Will you please quote that part of the British North America Act which vests in the Provinces, aside from police powers, the power to revoke the individual right of contract?

Question 2.—Please quote, verbatim, the opinion of your legal department covering the preceding question.

Answers to Questions 1 and 2, by James Muir, K.C., LL.D., Counsel:

"Re: British North America Act (1867)

"We are asked to quote that part of the above act which vests in the Province aside from police powers, the power to revoke the individual right of contract, and to give our opinion covering the question.

"Our constitutional law being governed by the above act, where the written text is explicit it is conclusive, but where it is ambiguous recourse must be had for its interpretation to the context and the scheme of the whole act, and in Canada, as in the United States, it must be developed and applied with the assistance of the courts, and as the courts in both countries have refused to deal with abstract questions their decisions are limited to the law applicable to the particular case before the court, and as after 100 years under the United States constitution new questions to be decided upon still arise and have to be decided, it would be at least very venturesome to lay down any general rule, and an opinion even on a specific case might require a great deal of careful consideration and any opinion might have to be given with hesitation.

"Among the 16 subjects appropriated to Provincial Legislatures under Section 13 in these words are 'Property and Civil Rights' and contracts would certainly be included, and if there were nothing more to be considered no conflict would arise between the Dominion and the Province as to their respective legislative powers. There is, however, the express exception of 'Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes,' which are expressly made subject to Dominion legislation.

"The following subjects are also subject to Dominion legislation: 'Bankruptcy,' 'The Regulation of Trade and

## GREATEST HOPE IN COMPULSORY BOARD

"I believe that our greatest hope for the efficient sale of our wheat in the immediate or near future lies in the establishment of a compulsory Wheat Board, and that we should look directly to the three Provincial Governments for the primary legislation to that end. The Provincial Governments can ask the Federal Government to give the supporting legislation, if any, that may be necessary. If this Wheat Board system is established, I hope it may eventually be merged into a voluntary pool."—President Wood in answer to a question by Bassano Local.

Commerce,' 'Banking,' 'Copyright and other subjects in which legislation respecting 'Civil Rights and Property,' to which contracts belong, are involved.

"As each of the Provinces has the same legislative powers, these powers are also limited by the territorial limits of the Province. The Dominion Government has also power to pass laws for the 'general peace, order and good government of Canada,' and in such legislation at least incidentally property and civil rights would be involved. Under a written constitution it must have been foreseen that sharp and definite distinctions between the various Provinces and the Dominion could not be attained and that some of the classes of legislation assigned to the Provincial Legislatures unavoidably ran into and are embraced by some of the classes of subjects allotted to the Dominion and hence the difficulty in determining the legislative powers of the Provinces even in specific cases, and the necessity of using general terms. We may add that when once it has been determined that the particular contract comes within the field of Provincial legislation, the power to legislate is absolute, and in such cases the Legislature may prohibit, cancel, modify and regulate all such contracts, and as to property may even expropriate private property without compensation to the owner.

"We hope that to some extent, at least, we have answered your questions and at any rate have shown some of the difficulties that surround them.

Yours truly,

By-James Muir."

Question 3.—Is it not true that a majority of farmers of Manitoba, closer to market and with lower freight rates and hence better able to take advantage of the higher grain prices usually obtaining in the opening market season, are averse to a compulsory pool?

Answer to Question 3.—The U.F.M. Convention decided in favor of a Wheat Board. In the controversy over the Wheat Board it was frequently asserted by its opponents that the Manitoba farmers were opposed to it, but I have found no evidence among the farmers themselves to support this assertion. I believe they are in favor of a Wheat Board.

Question 4.—Without the co-operation of Manitoba farmers, what show have we to stabilize the wheat markets of the world? Or even with Manitoba included?

Answer to Question 4.—I am not clear as to just what is meant by "to stabilize the wheat markets of the

world." If you mean a condition under which the price of wheat will fluctuate but little from time to time, we are now rapidly approaching that condition. That condition will be reached when the price of wheat sinks to a level just above its stock food value. This, I might say, is not what the advocates of the Wheat Board were trying to accomplish, but rather what they were trying to prevent. They wanted a marketing system by which the flow of wheat could be controlled, and sales negotiated on the basis of its human food value.

Question 5.—Since the records of the United States Grain Growers, Inc., Chicago, Ill., show that less than one per cent. of their 60,000 members could be induced to sign a compulsory pooling contract, what evidence have you, in the absence of a direct referendum based on thorough discussion in your Locals, that a majority of Canadian producers favor a compulsory pool?

Answer to Question 5.—That the wheat producers of the three principal wheat producing Provinces, viz., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, want a Wheat Board is evidenced by their actions in passing resolutions to that effect in their Annual Conventions, as well as resolutions passed by Locals. It is also evidenced by word of mouth wherever I have come in contact with them, also by individual letters.

Question 6.—Granting the initiative and referendum as one of the cardinal principles of the Progressive party, why was not a referendum secured direct from your Locals on the question of creating a compulsory pool, and prior to holding our last Annual Convention?

Answer to Question 6.—I was under the impression that the initiative was always in the hands of the Locals, and that it was continuously being exercised. The machinery of our organization functions for that purpose. Conventions are for the purpose of giving expression to the results of their initiations, and to take united action regarding them. It is true that frequently a Local, after initiating something, has it referred to the other Locals as a suggestion. The Executive Committee may do the same, but there is no one with authority autocratically to refer a thing to the Locals and say it shall be decided by a popular majority.

Question 7.—Is it not true that the Convention resolutions favoring a compulsory Government Wheat Board, passed by the Annual Conventions of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, were the direct result of the effort and influence of yourself, Mr. C. Rice-Jones, and Mr. J. B. Musselman and Mr. Norman Lambert; and that a majority of Locals prior to these Conventions did not instruct their delegates to vote for such a plan?

Answer to Question 7.—I advised the U.F.A. Convention that in my opinion a compulsory Wheat Board with James Stewart at the head of it was a perfectly safe proposition. I do not know what influence this opinion had on the decision of the convention. I do not know what influence, if any, Mr. Rice-Jones, Mr. Musselman, or Mr. Lambert

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# U.F.A. Executive Decides Upon Drastic Curtailment of Services

Heavy Reduction in Revenue Due to Falling off in Membership During Current Year Seriously Handicaps Organization

The Central Executive of the United Farmers of Alberta met at the Central Office, Calgary, October 19th-21st. The meeting lasted three days. This was the fourth meeting of the Executive since the Convention. More than half the time of the meeting was occupied by consideration of the financial affairs of the Association which have become serious owing to the very large falling off in membership.

## Only 15,000 Paid up Members

Up to September 30th only 15,000 members, men, women and juniors, were paid up for 1922, as compared with nearly 38,000 for 1921. Notwithstanding the increased fee, therefore, the Association is faced with a seriously reduced revenue. In fact, the membership fees received for 1922 up to the end of September amounted to \$28,480, as compared with \$38,070 for the full year 1921, excluding life memberships, or an actual decrease in revenue from membership fees of \$9,590. Out of this \$28,480, a sum of \$7,000 net has been paid to the support of the newspaper, as a portion of each subscription was earmarked for this purpose. On the basis of 20,000 circulation, \$10,000 net of association funds will be required for the support of the newspaper before the end of the year. The revenue available for organization expenses and the upkeep of the Central Office has fallen almost \$4,000 short of meeting the current expenses.

The educational assessment received from the United Grain Growers Limited amounting this year to \$5,850.75 has been applied entirely to decrease the loan of \$9,000 which was secured last year to meet the extraordinary expenses thrust upon the organization contingent upon the Provincial and Federal general elections, in addition to the Medicine Hat by-election. While the constituencies are organized to finance their own election expenses an immense amount of extra organization work was demanded by the membership throughout the Province in preparation for these contests.

## Fall Board Meeting Postponed

As a measure of economy it has been decided to postpone the usual fall Board meeting until just prior to the Annual Convention. This was one of the recommendations made by the Board members in response to a request for suggestions to assist the Executive in dealing with the situation, a number of other valuable suggestions being made.

The Secretary advised the Executive that in addition to reductions in the staff of the Central office already made, members of the staff had made voluntary sacrifices which represented, on a yearly basis, \$3,500.

## Services Must Be Curtailed

After considering a report on the work of the Central Office presented by the Secretary, the Executive decided that the services being rendered by the Central Office must be curtailed sufficiently to bring the expenditure within the revenue available from membership dues. The policy of the Executive on the situation

was expressed in the following resolution: "Resolved that it is the policy of the Executive to have the expenditure of Central Office kept on the basis and safely within the limits of the income derived from the annual membership dues, and that the Executive appoint an advisory committee to confer with the Central Secretary in making necessary changes and readjustments in carrying out this policy, and in all matters of increasing the expenditure. In case of disagreement the matter at issue shall be referred to the Executive Committee. Further be it resolved that Mr. Scholefield be appointed as said committee."

## Responsibility for Organization.

To meet some of the more pressing obligations the Secretary and Mr. Scholefield were empowered to raise a loan of \$2,000 and if necessary to do so to hypothecate the available security of the Association. The Secretary was also instructed to advise all Directors and organizers that on account of lack of funds the Central office could not take any responsibility for paying expenses for organization work until further advised.

The other business dealt with at the meeting included the following matters: Annual Convention January 16th to 19th

It was decided that assuming satisfactory arrangements could be made, the Annual Convention would take place in Edmonton in accordance with the usual policy of alternating between Edmonton and Calgary. The Convention dates to be January 16th to 19th.

The Secretary was authorized to arrange for convention hall, and also to continue his efforts on behalf of the Association to secure from the Canadian Passenger Association a rate of fare and one-third for the Convention as against the rate now in effect of fare and one-half.

## Secretaries' Conference

It was decided that a Secretaries' Conference be announced for Tuesday, November 21st, to be held in Calgary, and that the pooling of rates be left to the decision of the Conference. It was understood that the entire travelling expense would be borne by the delegates.

## Financial Year

The Secretary suggested change in financial year to end November 30 instead of December 31st to enable the financial statement to be sent to Locals before the Convention, the Convention year to remain as at present. This suggestion met with approval, but will require a Constitutional Amendment to be passed by the Convention.

## Stamp Tax

Sears—Bevington: The Secretary was instructed to draw attention of the Federal Members to the working out of the stamp tax.

## Sessional Indemnity

A number of resolutions were read dealing with the sessional indemnity paid to members of the Provincial Legislature. The Executive were of the opinion that

this was not a matter for Executive action.

## Representatives

President Wood was appointed the representative of the U.F.A. to the Municipalities Convention, Miss Kidd to the Social Service Convention and Mr. Sears to a conference on the Wild Lands Tax. Mr. Scholefield was appointed to represent the U.F.A. in the matter of administration of Estates.

## Song Book

Mr. Scholefield reported that the Canadian Council committee on song book had decided that it was desirable to make a compilation of about 150 songs but on account of the low state of finances the matter had been postponed.

## Livestock Committee

Livestock matters, including consideration of the trailing laws and the 75c. charge imposed by the railways for cleaning cars, were referred to Messrs. Sears and Bevington, who were appointed by the President as a Livestock Committee to look after the Southern and Northern portions of the Province respectively.

## Tanneries

Scholefield—Bevington: That the Executive ask the Minister of Agriculture to have tanneries included in the Produce Act.

## Is It Worth While?

(Contributed)

Is it worth a few dollars to keep your boy and girl at home?

Surely: then get busy and get them into your Local.

Follow up by assisting to make your Local a social centre in the community.

Make your community a livelier place, and your children will stick.

Remember the U.F.A. is not a balloon. It can't operate on air. Your money is needed.

Do you believe in Co-operation?—What a question!

Of course you do, your fees are going to be paid at the next meeting of your Local.

The man who does not believe in Co-operation does not believe in progress.

He is usually a social porcupine, whose quills are constantly set to puncture any and every worthy movement.

Centuries ago there roamed the earth animals of tremendous size, ferocious, heavily armoured and otherwise equipped with weapons of offense and defense. Today they are extinct. Why? They worked alone.

They refused to Co-operate. They were of the individualistic type.

Don't you think we had better stick?

"There can be few people who fail to realize the provisional nature and the dangerous instability of our present political and economic system, and still fewer who believe with the doctrinaire individualists that profit-hunting 'go as you please' will guide mankind to any haven of prosperity and happiness. Great rearrangements are necessary, and a systematic legal subordination of personal self-seeking to the public good."—H. G. Wells in "The Outline of History."



# The Provincial Secretary's Page

## Information For Officers and Members.

### SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 21st

A conference for secretaries of Locals of the United Farmers of Alberta will be held in the Sandstone Hall, Calgary, on Tuesday, November 21st next, commencing at 9.30 a.m. All U. F. A., U. F. W. A. and Junior Locals are urged to arrange for their secretary to attend this conference, which is called not to discuss the important questions affecting farmers as a class such as are taken up at the Annual Convention in January, but to discuss the work of the Locals, dealing especially with such matters as: "How to make the meetings interesting," "How to carry on the Local," "How to make a successful Local," "How to retain old members," "How to get new members," "How to interest the women members," "How to interest the Junior members."

#### Belongs Entirely to Locals

This conference belongs entirely to the Locals themselves. It is a means whereby their secretaries can, by meeting with other secretaries, get ideas which will be helpful in the work of the Locals. If the secretary is unable to attend the Local is urged to send another representative who will carry back ideas to the Local.

The secretaries' conferences were started in 1917 in accordance with a desire expressed by the secretaries who were delegates to the Annual Convention of that year. No secretaries' conference was held in 1921 on account of the Provincial and Federal elections.

In connection with the short course held at the University of Alberta last March, a meeting of secretaries and others present was held, which proved very profitable in the ideas brought forth. This meeting expressed unanimous desire to have the conferences continued each year, preferably in two sections. Edmonton and Calgary. The conference called for November 21st in Calgary is therefore in line with the expressed desires of the secretaries' conferences in previous years.

#### U.G.G. Annual Meeting and Live Stock Conference

The date, November 21, has been chosen on account of the fact that special convention rates will be in force during that week in connection with the annual meeting of the United Grain Growers, Limited, which will be held in Calgary on the 23rd and 24th of November. In the same week, on Wednesday, November 22, a conference will be held in the Paget Hall, Calgary, called by the United Grain Growers, Limited, to discuss improvement of livestock markets by extending co-operative livestock shipping to markets in Eastern Canada and the United States. A plan which has been worked out by the Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers, Limited, will be submitted to the meeting for discussion and, if thought desirable, approval. All secretaries of U.F.A. Locals as well as representatives of livestock shipping associations, or individual shippers and delegates to the annual meeting of the United Grain Growers, Limited, are invited to attend this livestock conference.

The convention rates in effect will per-

### ACCOUNTING OF POLITICAL FUNDS

At the last meeting of the Central Board the Provincial Secretary was instructed to notify each of the Federal Constituencies of the conditions under which Central Office will continue to handle the accounting of political funds. The President and Secretary of each Federal Constituency Association have been written fully in this connection, and each Constituency has been requested to notify Central Office without delay whether they wish Central Office to continue this work on their behalf.

mit secretaries and others to spend the entire week in Calgary if desired. Tickets on the standard certificate plan will be available at railway stations on Friday, November 17th. All standard certificates issued on November 17th or any other time after that date up to November 24th will be valid and accepted by the railway company when properly signed and endorsed, allowing of a return journey being made at half of the one way fare up to the night of the 28th.

Arrangements have also been made whereby, if it is more convenient for delegates to travel on two different lines of railway to save time, they can do so by taking two tickets and getting a standard certificate each time.

The question as to whether the rates shall be pooled or not will be left entirely to the delegates, but the entire travelling expense must be borne by the Locals.

### EVIL OF DRUG TRAFFIC

A resolution passed by the annual convention of the Lacombe U.F.A. Provincial Constituency Association requests the Provincial and Dominion Governments to use all means in their power to stop the drug traffic, which the resolution asserts is a growing evil, and menaces particularly the youth of the country.

### CAPPON DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

A rally day will be held by the Cappon District U.F.A. Association at Spring Valley on November 17th. Several speakers will be present.

### SASKATCHEWAN CONVENTION

The Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association announce that their Annual Convention has been set for January 26-30. The Convention date has been changed from its usual time about the middle of February, and commences the week after the U.F.A. Convention.

Another interesting feature in connection with this announcement is that the Saskatchewan Convention will open on a Friday morning and continue over the week-end until Tuesday night. This seems to be quite a new departure in convention arrangements.

### U.F.M. CONVENTION JANUARY 9th

The Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Manitoba will be held from January 9th to 12th, inclusive.

A convention of the South Hand Hills U.F.A. District Association will be held at the Lonebutte School November 3rd.

The Lonebutte U.F.W.A. will serve free lunch to delegates and visitors, and the convention will be called at 1 p.m. E. J. Garland, M.P., and G. A. Forster, M.L.A., will speak.

A recent meeting of the Camrose U.F.A. Local passed a resolution of sympathy with the family of the late Archie H. Jones, who had been their secretary. Over one hundred members of the Local attended the funeral in a body, and, on invitation from the minister in charge of the funeral service, John Slattery spoke briefly of the splendid work that had been done by Mr. Jones for the organization and for the community.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

(Continued from page 3)

democratic action which the farmers adopted when they decided to take political action.

## Will Quebec Lead Canada?

The following extract from a letter received by President Wood from a man in Quebec will give some idea of how the people everywhere are thinking, in contrast with some of our so-called leaders who are seeking political preferment, and are carrying on active flirtations with the senile maiden lady called partyism. As a voice out of the depths of Quebec, where the farmers are supposed to be hopelessly unorganizable and the people pledged to hold an eternal wake over the corpse of partyism, this letter is exceedingly refreshing. Who knows but that an awakened Quebec may yet lead a real progressive force into real progressive action?

The following is the extract referred to:

"Do I understand that the Western farmers' unions are about to join the Liberal party in Ottawa? In my humble opinion it would be a mistake for the following reasons:—

"1. You would lose your identity and become Liberals.

"2. You would lose the confidence of united farmers in other Provinces.

"3. You have so far done exceedingly well, obtained much from the government while you were in the opposition. You would not have gotten as much had you been with the Liberals, and your task is not, by far, accomplished.

"Both the Liberal and Conservative parties are still the valets of manufacturers, traders and financiers of all kinds, including combines with watered stock, etc., sucking the life blood out of the Canadian people. How could you help to relieve them?

"Mr. King is at present at loggerheads with the Quebec Liberals, and he could not count on them.

"Our Provincial Government has been in power, with no efficient opposition, during 25 years, and is rotten to the core. It will soon die of old age. The same financial crowds ruling at Ottawa are complete masters in Quebec.

"The Quebec farmers will organize, and along with farmers in the Maritime Provinces and in Ontario, would give you a majority which would enable you to advance considerably the general interest of Canada's population."

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### AN INVITATION TO PROSPECTS.

Are you willing to form a Junior branch of the U.F.A. in your district?

Are you anxious to become a part of our great farmers' organization which is today claiming the attention of so many people? Would you learn the advantages gained through your affiliation with the farmers' movement? Are you ready to accept the invitation which has so often been sent out—to join our forces and march onward with us?

Our U.F.A. organization aims to promote a higher standard of rural life, and can only do so by united effort. Try to get every boy and girl in your district interested in the part they can play in shaping the destiny of our Dominion. Teach them that every one of them has an important part to play in the life of the nation. Think of the excellent opportunity you young people will have to work together—to help build up a happy, wholesome life. Remember you are not struggling along alone, but every farm man, woman, boy and girl in the Province is willing, and anxious, to help you in every possible way. The field we have to cover is large—our workers few, so our call goes out to you to "come over and help us." I feel confident that as you become familiar with our aims and objects, your interest will increase, and you will be glad for having added another "strong" link to our chain.

Following is a list of our Junior Directors, who will be only too willing to help you become organized.

Macleod—Fred Hartwick, Nanton.  
Lethbridge—James Rollingson, Magrath.  
Bow River—Allan Gibson, Rumsey.  
Medicine Hat—Lester Francis, Alask.  
West Calgary—J. W. Laut, Crossfield.  
East Calgary—Sydney Thorpe, Irricana.  
Victoria—Madeline Marler, Camrose.  
Battle River—Wilbur Dodds, Rosyth.  
East Edmonton—Vera Carson, Namao.  
West Edmonton—Carroll Way, Helderar.  
Red Deer—Donald Cameron, Elnora.  
Strathcona—Myrtle Krefting, R. R. No. 1, Ponoka.

EVA M. PEEL,

Junior Branch Secretary.

### PROGRAM COMPETITIONS

Would you welcome one more suggestion for making your meetings interesting? How about putting on a program competition?

A short time ago an article appeared in one of the local papers, giving a complete program for such a contest. Those of you who are in search for new suggestions, and novel ideas, I am sure will appreciate this suggestion. The competition will, I am confident, stimulate much interest in good programs for future meetings.

Two captains should be chosen from your group, who will each choose sides for the duration of the contest. Each member will be expected to contribute a song, recitation, speech, joke, etc., to the program, one member from each side being called on alternately. Marks will be given for each contribution, and at the end of the contest, the side having the highest total will be the winner. The losing side will then be expected to banquet the winning side.

The "Schedule of Marks" as prepared by the Junior Local mentioned above, is as follows:

	Marks
A new member (present or absent)	10
Speech on current topic	60
Speech on a literary or historical subject	50
Song	50
Joke or story	30
Instrumental	40
Accompaniment	25
Recitation (not less than 15 lines)	50
Play (each player who actually takes part), each	50
Pantomime (action), each	25
Impromptu debate, each	10
Prepared debate, each	60

A good plan for choosing partners would be to have the ladies retire behind a drawn curtain and the gentlemen then bid on the ladies' feet.

Another way would be to have the ladies walk slowly behind a drawn sheet, and the gentlemen bid on their shadows.

A very jolly evening can be spent in this way, and can be planned for every three or six months.

EVA M. PEEL,

Junior Branch Secretary.

## The Constituencies in Convention

### PONOKA OPPOSES FUSION.

Resolutions were passed at the annual convention of the Ponoka U.F.A. Provincial Constituency Association, held in Ponoka on Oct. 14th, approving the stand taken by the U.F.A. members in the House of Commons, and opposing any amalgamation with any political party that would destroy the identity of the group as now constituted. Another resolution regretted the action taken by the Provincial members in connection with the sessional indemnity, and asked them to return the amount to the Province. The convention sent back to the Locals for discussion a resolution which urged the reduction of the amount of the regular indemnity.

### WARNER PROVINCIAL CONSTITUENCY.

The annual convention of the Warner U.F.A. Provincial Constituency Association, held in Foremost on Oct. 11th, passed a resolution asking the Provincial Government to take charge of the affairs of any solvent farmer who requested them to do so, guaranteeing or paying all outstanding indebtedness, and collecting repayment in a series of thirty-year payments, including interest. The resolution further suggested that in order to make repayment possible, a nominal rate of interest on overdue amounts should be arranged. Other resolutions pressed for a long term loan department to be established by the Dominion Government, and asked for an amendment of the Banking Act to allow chattel mortgages to be given on growing crops, in order to help farmers to finance their spring and summer work.

The new officers elected are A. H. Steckle, president; Wm. A. Merriam and Mrs. Burnham, vice-presidents; Henry Bye, Messrs. Chisholm, Bruyckiri and John McPhee, directors.

M. J. Conner, M.L.A., and L. H. Jellicoff, M.P., addressed the convention, the former dealing chiefly with the Drought Relief Act, and the latter with the Crow's Nest Pass agreement.



### NO NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

A resolution passed by the Stettler U.F.A. Provincial Constituency Association, in convention in Stettler on Oct. 10th, re-affirmed the adherence of the association to the principle of group organization, and of co-operation between economic groups, and deprecated any attempts to form a new political party or bring about any affiliation between the U.F.A. representatives in Parliament and any political party. Other resolutions asked that a reduction in freight rates on seed and feed be allowed and that the situation brought about in the district through a short crop should be relieved even to the extent of the declaration of a moratorium by the Government, if necessary. The convention recommended the payment of an annual salary to members of the Legislature. A constitutional amendment made it possible for Locals who had not paid membership dues to the association to obtain representation at the provincial constituency convention by sending one delegate.

The delegates voted a resolution of thanks to A. L. Sanders, M.L.A., for his account of the work done by the Legislature.

President Wood spoke before a large audience in the evening, dealing with the fundamentals of the organization.

J. E. Brown was elected president; Mrs. R. Price, vice-president; Mrs. Barnett. Messrs. Groat, Taylor, Armstrong, McKay and Meyers, directors.

### HAND HILLS CONVENTION.

The annual convention of the Hand Hills Provincial Constituency Association, held in Craigmyle on Oct. 11th, heard addresses from G. A. Forster, M.L.A., and E. J. Garland, M.P. Of several resolutions on the sessional indemnity, one, suggesting a return of \$150 of the amount, was lost on being put to the vote, and the others were tabled.

### RED DEER CONVENES NOV. 22ND.

The annual convention of the Red Deer U.F.A. Federal Constituency Convention will be held in Red Deer on Nov. 22nd and 23rd. The basis of representation to the convention on Nov. 22nd will be one delegate for every ten members or major portion thereof based on the paid up membership to the Red Deer Federal Constituency Association for the year 1921. The representation on Nov. 23rd will be based on the paid up membership in the U.F.A. Provincial organization for 1921. New Locals may base their representation on their 1922 membership.

The program for the first day includes the president's and secretary's reports, address by Alfred Speakman, M.P., address by Wm. Irvine, M.P., on the Douglas system of credit, election of officers for the ensuing year, and resolutions. On the second day resolutions and general U.F.A. work will be taken up, and there will be addresses by President Wood and Geo. Bevington, if they can be procured.

### COCHRANE CONVENTION

The annual convention of the Cochrane U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. District Association will be held in the Community Hall, Sampsonston, on Monday, November 13th, beginning at 10 a.m.

The series of articles by Hon. J. E. Brownlee on "The Problem of the Natural Resources," will be resumed in the next issue of "The U.F.A." The Dominion Government and the Premiers of the Prairie Provinces will confer on this question at Ottawa on November 13th.

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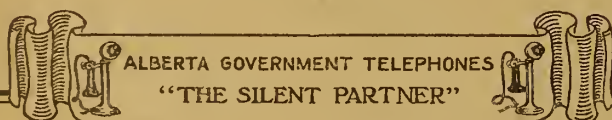
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## PINCHER CREEK FARMERS GRASP PRACTICAL PLAN OF CO-OP- ERATIVE MARKETING

(Continued from page 1)

Many farmers receive less than cost of production for the products they have to sell, even during periods when millers may be declaring handsome dividends to their shareholders.

### Saving on Twelve Cars of Cattle.

The sums absorbed by middlemen are large. For instance, the agents of the packers, or drover buyers, stationed throughout the country are paid a salary or commission to collect livestock and deliver it, and, incidentally, competitive buying is not usually very keen at country points. But the farmer can ship his own stuff today to the large competitive markets, and save the commissions or salaries of the drovers. Last month a group of our farmers collected twelve cars of cattle into one consignment and made more than \$1500 by co-operative marketing.

To return to the definite plan of co-operation which has been adopted by the Pincher Creek farmers, it may be of interest to note that the Co-operative Association very quickly obtained considerably more than the 200 signatures necessary to the provision of the share capital, which has been raised by the sale of \$20 shares to the members of the U. F.A. Locals in the district.

### Terms of Contract.

The contract signed by each member is for a period of five years. It includes all the producers' products (with the exception of wheat) which the association can handle. For the period of five years he must sell all of the products specified in the contract through the Association, with the exception of those required for his own use, and those previously contracted for, of which a memorandum must be attached to the agreement.

If the producer is offered a price for his products in excess of the price paid by the Association, the offer must be turned over to the Association. If he fails to deliver all the products he has contracted to deliver, (apart from those specifically exempted), the producer must pay to the Association 20 per cent. of the value of all products sold or delivered by him to the Association during a period of twelve months prior to such breach of the contract; or, if the producer has been shipping for a period of less than twelve months, 20 per cent. of the value of the products delivered by him during the period. In no case, however, shall the sum be less than \$250. The Association is also entitled to obtain an injunction to prevent further breach of the contract, and to a decree for specific performance of the terms of the agreement. The Association may, however, give its consent to a member to sell products through other channels than the Association.

### Net Returns to Members.

Each member will receive from the Association the net amount received for his products, less a share of the costs and expenses of the Association proportionate to the producers' annual total business with the Association. Reasonable allowances for depreciation of plant and equipment, and certain other deductions, will be made. The producer's annual fee to the U.F.A. Local of which he is a member will also be included in the sum deducted from the returns to the producer, and also a further uniform percentage, not to exceed 1½ per cent. of the gross sale price of the products as the association may deem necessary to provide for a reserve fund.

Readers of "The U.F.A." who wish to obtain complete copies of the contract may obtain them by writing to the manager of the Association, who will be glad to give any other information that may be desired by Locals in other districts interested in this marketing plan.

The officers of the Association are: president, E. G. Cook, M.L.A.; vice-president, L. Bonarts; secretary, C. Duffield; manager, D. A. Stringer.

### Some Questions and Answers.

What price will be paid to the farmer for his products, such as Timothy Hay?

The farmer will receive the full selling price received, less the cost of doing business. We can, for illustration, say the expense of doing the business will not exceed one dollar a ton. The farmer will deliver his hay to the Association. They will sell it and the grower will get the re-sale price less one dollar a ton.

Why does the contract run for five years instead of one year?

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are about to organize to sell all the hay the members grow during the five year period. All hay will be sold through the board of directors. They are farmers and friends and neighbors. They can't do a thing with their hay that they don't do for their neighbor's crop. They cannot put a charge against his hay that does not go on their hay. His interest is the same as theirs.

The Association must establish selling connections based on satisfactory quality, delivery, and attention to their requirements. The value of any successful selling agency is its ability to get and hold repeat orders for more business.

The Association must also investigate and by careful planning learn how to place and distribute all produce where it will get the highest price or its full value for the Association, without paying middlemen's profits or commissions.

What, it may be asked, are the risks of failure?

We have the produce of two hundred farmers contracted to sell for five years. This can be handled without capital except for the initial expense of office equipment and supplies. The directors authorize and see that this expense shall not exceed a sum which can be easily provided from the sales of the products. The salary and expense of their management is wholly under their control. If the management is inefficient or unsatisfactory, it can be replaced. The risk for the individual grower is almost negligible, compared with his investment in production.

#### Welcomed by Merchants.

Let me say again that the merchants of Pincher Creek have welcomed the organization of the farmers' co-operative marketing association. One merchant, commenting on the plans when they were under discussion, said, "You have 75 per cent. of everyone in town boosting this organization. Most of us are sick and tired of groping about in the dark waiting for better times to come. Everyone with half an eye can see that the farmer can increase his income by co-operative marketing—we've proved that. Well, if the farmer increases his income by \$100 my business will thrive accordingly. The only way in which some merchants can make money now is to lend merchandise, and then foreclose. No one wants to do business like that."

The plan which has been outlined above is modelled upon that of the most successful Pacific Coast farmers of the United States. The progress of co-operative marketing there has been closely watched by the Pincher Creek farmers. On the Pacific Coast the producers have effected the marketing of their products to the extent of \$300,000,000 annually, and the result has been satisfactory not only to the producers but to the consumers and the country in general.

One of the men who has been outstanding in the organization of many successful co-operative marketing associations is Aaron Sapiro, whose addresses on co-operative marketing in Ontario last March will be of great interest and value to every farmer. They have been published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. The following outline of facts from his lips will show the true force of his accomplishments:

#### "California Growers Now Look Prosperous."

"First, for the growers it has meant a complete change in their whole method of living. The California growers look different to the growers in any other part of the United States. They don't have worry written all over their faces. They are not hopeless any more. They have had steady incomes for a few years, and are beginning to think of life in the same terms that other men think of life. They are beginning to think of physical comforts in living, of decent schools and churches, and so on. That is why, if you look through the Californian rural districts today you will see homes that are homes—homes with running water and bathrooms and everything homes should have, even electricity. We find they can pay enough taxes to get good roads, and the Californian roads are supposed to be the best in the United States. They can pay enough taxes so that the California rural schools are the best rural schools in the United States, although our city schools are known to be notoriously poor. They can pay enough taxes so that they can have real rural libraries, and in centres not big enough to have libraries they pay enough taxes so that they can have travelling libraries. You cannot go anywhere in the co-operative districts without seeing good churches, little movie houses and all the things that indicate good clean recreation as well as good comfortable living; and if you look on the roster of the University of California, you will find that it is the largest in the United States—I am not saying it is the best, but the largest—and

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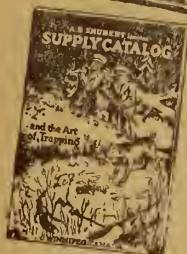
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you will find they have more farmer boys and girls on their rolls than in any other two States in the United States."

"The Boys and Girls Get the Benefits."  
"Our farmers send their boys and girls to the high school, and where they can to the university. They have learned how to make money, and with this money they have bought enlightening education and decent living. They buy life insurance at the rate of five to one over the best Southern States, and three to one over the best of other agricultural States. The California farmer looks on living from the same viewpoint that you or I look upon life. The Californian farmer does not need to make his boys and girls work on the farm between school hours. He does not send his wife to work on the farm, as is done in so many states in the South. The California farmers live on the same standard of living that you and I think is right for a city man with a small factory at this particular stage of civilization. The finest citizenship in California is on the California farm. The finest type of men and women is on the Californian farm, and it has been done within the last fifteen years. It has all happened since the California farmer learned to be independent—learned to run his business in a dignified, sound way. To the farmer this co-operative movement has meant his first chance at life, his first chance at comfortable, sane living, his first chance at giving his family an opportunity for a higher type of living that you and I, in our better moments, think is due every man and woman today. To the California farmer this has become a gospel, and that is why these associations which started out with a control of fifty per cent. of some particular commodity, now, with the strawberries and things like that, have ninety per cent. of the entire crop sold through one office. The raisin growers have 95 per cent. of the growers in one association, the prune growers have 88 per cent. of the growers in one association, the almond growers have almost 90 per cent. in one association. Because our farmers have seen through co-operative marketing they achieve everything that modern civilization holds. It is the one great movement to them, the one thing that has really worked and is working now in a sound, permanent way."

**THE PROBLEM OF WHEAT MARKETING**

(Continued from page 4).

had on the actions of any of the Conventions in reaching their conclusions. I have no means of knowing how many Locals sent delegates uninstructed on this question.

Question 8.—At the adjournment of these Conventions were not the delegates of the opinion that the compulsory Government Wheat Board plan they endorsed was legal and practical?

Answer to Question 8.—I do not know, but I hope so.

Question 9.—Is it not true that prior to the holding of the three Provincial conventions which endorsed the Government Wheat Board plan, Attorney General Brownlee had submitted to you or to Mr. C. Rice-Jones an opinion holding the plan to be unconstitutional?

Answer to Question 9.—Not to me. In the case of Mr. Rice-Jones, I have no information.

Question 10.—Did you, when called upon by the delegates for advice, mention this adverse decision of your law office?

Answer to Question 10.—No.

Question 11.—Was the adverse decision of Attorney General Brownlee concerning the Wheat Board plan read to the delegates of the three Provincial Conventions?

Answer to Question 11.—Not in my hearing, nor to my knowledge.

Question 12.—Was any alternative suggested to the delegates with a view to overcoming the illegality suggested by Mr. Brownlee?

Question 13.—Did you offer or discuss a means for overcoming the Constitutional objection raised by Mr. Brownlee?

Answers to Questions 12 and 13.—I did not hear the legal objections discussed in the Convention. The legal question involved was whether certain powers were vested in the Dominion or in the Province. In either case it did not necessarily make the establishment of the Wheat Board impossible.

Question 14.—Following the decision of the King Government as to the illegality of the proposed Wheat Board plan, did you not make the following comment: "It may be that the people of the west may conclude they have been treated fairly in this matter, but while our Provinces are young they are not in-



habited entirely by children . . . . . It is the East against the West."?

Answer to Question 14.—I used some such words in reference to the attitude of the Dominion Government and certain individuals toward the Wheat Board legislation.

Question 15.—How do you reconcile the foregoing statement with the fact that the legal opinion of the crown was in direct accord with that of your own legal department?

Answer to Question 15.—If you refer to the opinion of the law officers of the crown that the Dominion Government did not have power to give a Wheat Board the same power that the 1919 Board had, I do not try to reconcile my words to that opinion at all, as the two had no relation to each other.

If you refer to the opinion of the same law officers that practically this power could be given through supporting legislation of the Provinces, my words still had no direct relation to that opinion.

My words had reference to the attitude of the Government toward the Wheat Board.

Question 16.—Since, with a spread of five cents between No. 1 and No. 2 Wheat, and of ten cents between No. 2 and No. 3, one measured bushel of wheat testing 64 lbs. per measure, when mixed with six measured bushels of No. 3 wheat testing 57 lbs. per measure, will bring the lot to test 58 lbs. per measured bushel, thereby grading No. 2 and advancing by 51c. the market value of the whole . . . . . this amount representing the mixing value of 64 lbs. of high-test No. 1 . . . . . Please state wherein the proposed Government Wheat Board plan, endorsed by our Convention, would save to producers the millions of dollars annually exacted by millers and speculators in thus converting our virgin grades into what is termed "skinned grades"?

Answer to Question 16.—Your Local seems to have information in regard to millions of dollars being exacted by millers and speculators through converting "virgin grades" into "skinned grades." If you have information that may lead to the correction of such an evil, I would suggest that by all means you give it to the organization and to the public. I regret that I am not in position to render this service. I would suggest, however, that millers do not convert "virgin grades" into "skinned grades," but that they convert wheat into flour.

The Wheat Board was not intended primarily to deal with the practice of skinning grades, but I do not believe this practice was carried on very extensively during the operation of the old Wheat Board.

Question 17.—Who secured these tremendous mixing values in the 40,000,000 bushels of grain annually marketed through the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and the United Grain Growers, Ltd.?

Question 18.—What enabling act or supplementary legislation is required to realize for the stockholders of these two groups these mixing values?

Question 19.—What legislation is required to secure a re-organization of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company and the United Grain Growers whereby they may be converted into a farmer-owned, farmer-controlled, co-operative marketing agency founded on a sound business basis and free from political entanglement?

Answers to Questions 17, 18 and 19.—I am not in possession of information in regard to these matters.

Question 20.—In the last U.F.A. Convention when unlimited time was granted to those favoring the Wheat Board plan endorsed, why were the opposition restricted to three minutes for each individual speaker?

Answer to Question 20.—Assuming that your statement is correct, I would call your attention to the fact that the Convention itself decides on the time that shall be allotted to speakers on any question. Only the Convention can give its reasons.

Question 21.—Why has no effort been made to establish a sample market on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange whereby producers may receive a fair proportion of the mixing values of their superior hard grains?

Answer to Question 21.—Efforts have been made to establish a sample market on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange but so far without results. A sample market has been open at Fort William for about two years, but I am informed that very little use has been made of it.

Question 22.—Do you favor the establishment of such a sample market?

Answer to Question 22.—I am not opposed to it.

Question 23.—Did the late Wheat Board plan include such a market?

Answer to Question 23.—The Wheat



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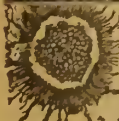
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Board was a centralized marketing system, and sold grain in quantities on basis of established grades.

Question 24.—What objection have you to a farmer-owned, farmer-controlled truly co-operative marketing plan?

Answer to Question 24.—None.

Question 25.—Will you state definitely the outline of a truly co-operative plan that you favor?

Answer to Question 25.—Any plan that can be made operative and efficient. I have no such plan worked out in detail. No doubt a plan can be worked out that can be successfully operated, if efficient management and the loyal support of the people can be secured.

Question 26.—Ninety days prior to the holding of our next Annual Convention, will you please serve notice to all U.F.A. Locals of your opinion as to what definite plan should be adopted for future co-operative marketing of grain?

Answer to Question 26.—I believe that our greatest hope for the efficient sale of our wheat in the immediate or near future lies in the establishment of a Compulsory Wheat Board, and that we should look directly to the three Provincial Governments for the primary legislation to that end. The Provincial Governments can ask the Federal Government to give the supporting legislation, if any, that may be necessary.

If this Wheat Board system is established I hope it may eventually be merged into a voluntary Pool.

This statement, if this correspondence is published, will be the notice to the Locals that you desire.

#### Comments of Bassano Local:

"The Bassano Local begs to assure you these questions are not offered as evidence of lack of faith or in doubt of your ability to answer them, but rather with a purpose of dispelling widespread perplexity in the minds of U.F.A. members of many Locals, and for the educational benefit that will accrue to all readers of our official organ, 'The U.F.A.', and The Grain Growers Guide.

"We wish to assure you, however, of our unalterable opposition to a Government Wheat Board plan, favoring instead the organization of a 'farmer-owned, farmer-controlled, truly co-operative plan for marketing all kinds of grain,' and free of political entanglement.

"We also urge that future plans for marketing should be submitted to all our Locals at least six months prior to the holding of the following Annual Convention, in order that future action may be regarded as a mandate from producers rather than as a plan hastily formed and subjected to limited scrutiny and debate on the floor of the Convention."

#### Reply to Above Comments:

In reference to your comments I am glad to note that your Local has not lost faith. I am also glad that your questions are not a mere academic test of my ability to answer them. Questions asked in that spirit or for that purpose could accomplish no good purpose, and would be unworthy of a U.F.A. Local.

I have been trying to deal with the situation by showing the utter hopelessness of the present grain marketing system ever functioning efficiently in securing the real value of our wheat. I shall continue this work so long as I can see hope of success. I do not believe that the establishment of a Wheat Board is hopeless, or that it need necessarily be long deferred. The farmers of the three principal wheat growing Provinces have expressed, through their organizations, their desire for a Wheat Board. When they decide in favor of some other plan, I will still give what service I can. In the meantime the Locals should seriously deal with this question, by getting what information and understanding they can. It is a very serious question and should be dealt with most earnestly.

If you will allow me some suggestions, which I hope are constructive in regard to your own Local, I would advise that you segregate the several questions and deal with them singly. Dealing with too many questions at the same time creates confusion when clarification is needed. It is impossible to unscramble eggs, or to get hatching results from them. I think that a reformed wheat marketing system is by far the most important one that you are trying to deal with. Solving that is in itself a real man's job, and I sincerely hope your Local can make some contribution to that end.

In dealing with this matter your Local has put itself in a somewhat awkward position by the declaration of its "unalterable opposition" to what other Locals and the Convention declared in favor of. This puts you on the same basis of co-operation with them that the tiger occupied with the young lady

from Niger. At least it is not the most inviting co-operative attitude. You have offered to stand with them on the basis of one plan only.

"A farmer-owned, farmer-controlled, truly co-operative plan for marketing all kinds of grain" will no doubt have a pleasing sound to the ear of every farmer who hears the words spoken. There is no doubt in my mind that you will have the unanimous support of all farmers for such a plan of pooling and selling grain, when you show them just how it can be put into practical, successful operation. As no such all-embracing plan has ever been put into successful operation anywhere in the world, at least a rough sketch of full details will have to be worked out before it can be intelligently considered.

#### SAVE \$8,000,000 TO DATE BY REDUCED RATES.

The recent reduction in freight rates on grain have resulted in a saving to western farmers of \$8,000,000 on wheat shipped so far, according to figures compiled by Alex. McDonald, a Winnipeg freight expert. He estimates that one third of the total crop has been moved, so that the total savings will approximate \$25,000,000. The figures are based on the freight rate from Regina to Fort William, as that is about the average length of the freight haul of western wheat. The average saving is over \$90 on every car of wheat shipped from Calgary.

#### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY.

R. D. Sinclair has been appointed assistant professor of animal husbandry in the college of agriculture, University of Alberta. He is a graduate of the institution and won the Governor General's gold medal on graduation. His home is on a farm near Innisfail.

#### NO ASSISTANCE FOR SHOWS

The Alberta Department of Agriculture has decided that no special assistance will be given this year for live-stock and grain exhibitors who wish to show at the forthcoming International Exposition in Chicago, or at the Royal Show in Toronto. This action has been taken in view of the economy.

#### FIRE LOSSES IN ALBERTA

The total damage to buildings through fires in the Province of Alberta during 1921 was \$1,737,604.95, according to the report of the Provincial superintendent of insurance. There were 396 fires in dwellings, causing a total damage of \$346,073.62; 178 occurred in stores, with a resultant loss of \$586,047.09; 104 barns were burned, at a loss of \$146,618.07; while 75 garages and auto were damaged to the extent of \$50. Fires in plants, shops and factories of various sorts, and one bridge, were responsible for the balance of the total loss.

#### U. F. A. LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Question: Has there been any change in the statute dealing with estates and succession thereto?

Answer: With the exception of a slight increase in the amount payable to the state under the Succession Duties Act in the case of estates valued at over \$10,000.00, there has been no recent change.

You are aware of course that under the law as it stands at present, when a person dies intestate his wife, if there are no children, succeeds to the entire estate; if there is one child the wife and the child take half each, and if more than one child the wife takes one-third and the other two-thirds are divided equally among the children.

One of the main difficulties which arise in the case of a person dying without a will, is that the wife or other relative applying for administration is obliged to get two persons to go as bondsmen in double the amount of the estate as guarantors for the proper administration of the estate, before the Court will appoint the person applying as administrator. It very frequently happens that considerable difficulty is experienced in getting two persons who can afford to assume this responsibility, particularly as this is regarded by the courts as a very strict liability, and in case the administrator should default the bondsmen immediately become liable to the estate, the responsibility being practically the same as endorsing the administrator note.

This question again very forcibly draws attention to the importance of men and women owning property having their will made. A very large proportion of the difficulties which arise in dealing with estates are eliminated when this is done.



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